Report from the Users' Center

RHIC & AGS
OPEN FORUM MEETING

December 9, 2005

Susan White-DePace

Passport Regulations

Visa Waiver Program (VWP) Participants: All VWP travelers must present machine-readable passports (MRP) for entry into the United States. A MRP has two lines of text as letters, numbers and chevrons (<<<) at the bottom of the personal information page with your picture.

As of October 26, 2005, VWP travelers will be required to present machine-readable passports containing a **digital photograph** of the traveler's face in order to make visa-free entries to the United States, **though only if the traveler's passport is issued on or after October 26, 2005**. VWP travelers whose MRP passports were issued before October 26, 2005 will not be required to comply with the digital photograph requirement. A digital photo is one that is printed on the page, not a photo that is glued or laminated into the passport.

If you are a traveler from a VWP country and your passport does not meet these requirements, you must either: obtain a visa in your valid passport for entry into the United States, or contact your country's passport issuing agency or authority for a new passport.

HSPD-12

Requirements for contractors to comply with HSPD-12 were removed thanks to the effort of Deputy Secretary Clay Sell.

RHIC & AGS Users Executive Committee (UEC) and other UECs around the country also wrote letters of thanks to Sell.

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Users' Center Web Site: http://www.bnl.gov/userscenter

- Deadline Approaching for AIP, APS Congressional Fellowships

- Meeting Announcements

- Statement on Budget

- Travel Advisory: Avian Influenza

- Users' Group web page

    http://www.bnl.gov/userscenter/UsersGroup/default.asp

- Identification Requirements

- Training

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Users' Group Web Site:
http://www.bnl.gov/userscenter/UsersGroup/default.asp

- UEC Membership list with links
- Working Group lists with links
  - Site Access & Science (SAS)
  - Funding, Politics & Programmatics (FPP)
  - Meetings, Communications & Outreach (MCO)
  - Quality of Life (QOL)
- Calendars of UEC Events and Meeting Notifications
- Presentations made at UEC meetings
- List Servers

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